Statement

Allocation of foodgrains to the drought affected states

(lakh MTs)

S.No.	State	Allocation of Foodgrains
1.	Andhra Pradesh	17.20
2.	Chhattisgarh	4.74
3.	Gujarat	3.06
4.	Haryana	0.25
5.	Himachal Pradesh	0.10
6.	Jharkhand	0.40
7.	Karnataka	7.20
8.	Kerala	0.52
9.	Madhya Pradesh	7.80
10.	Maharashtra	2.32
11.	Orissa	6.44
12.	Rajasthan	31.10
13.	Tamil Nadu	4.50
14.	Uttaranchal	0.50
15.	Uttar Pradesh	2.00
	TOTAL :	88.13

Review of foodgrain export policy

449. SHRI KARNENDU BHATTACHARJEE: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering a proposal to review the foodgrain export policy;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the new policy is likely to dispense with W.T.O. compatible subsidies being paid to the exporters of foodgrains; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SUBHASH MAHARIA): (a) to (d) A Committe headed by the Chairman, Food Corporation of India set up to, *inter alia*, to formulate a clear and comprehensive policy framework for the export (and import) of foodgrains, over a period of time, as also to recommend Operational guidelines pertaining thereto, has concluded its work. Presently, WTO Compatiable post-delivery expenses incurred by exporters are reimbursable.

Expenditure of food subsidy

450. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the expenditure on food subsidy reached a whopping amount of Rs. 27,800/- crores;

(b) whether it is also a fact that this amount includes the expenditure made for holding surplus food stocks;

(c) if so, the details of the food subsidy spent under various heads;

(d) whether Government are aware of the fact that even the free distribution of excess stock to the drought affected or needy would be cheaper than storing them; and

(e) if so, the steps being taken to avoid the wasteful spending on the storage of unnecessary food stocks?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SUBHASH MAHARIA): (a) Yes, Sir. A provison of Rs. 27,800/- crore has been made for 2003-04 (BE), out of which the share of food subsidy is Rs. 27,750/- crore and the share of sugar subsidy is Rs. 50/- crore.

(b) Yes, Sir. It includes Rs. 5069 crore towards holding buffer stocks, which includes stocks of foodgrains required for the food security of the country.